THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) Retease of High Speed Diesel (HSD) to retail outlets in various States/UTs is being made at the same level as in the corresponding period of the previous year w.e.f. November 26, 1990 onwards.

(b) Reports have been received about shortages and queues at retail outlets in different parts of the country.

(c) High Speed Diesel is an imported product and the present foreign exchange position does not permit imports to meet the full demand. Steps are being taken to maximise domestic production and import HSD within the foreign exchange available for this purpose.

ONGC production target

387. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the production target of ONGC during the year 1990;

(b) how far the target has been achieved by ONGC; and

(c) what are the reasons attributable to short-fall in its achievement, if any?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) The production targets of ONGC for 1990-'91 are as follows:

	MMT
Crude Oil	32.12
NGL	0.88
	33.00

(b) During 1-4-1990 to 30-11-1990, as against the planned production of 21.928 MMT, the actual production was 20.031 MMT.

(c) The short-fall has been mainly on account of:

(i) Agitations/bandhs/barricades in Assam;

(ii) Unprecedented floods and water-logging in Assam and Gujarat;

(iii) Strike by officers for 3 days to press their demands for pay revision;

(iv) Lower upliftment of North Gujarat crude by Koyali refinery due to LSHS disposal problems and consequential losses from ceased wells which take time to revive; and

(v) Reduction in production from Gandhar and Kalol fields in Gujarat for reservoir management.

Effect of Crude Oil Blockade on Oil Refineries

388. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a number of refineries in the country were badly affected by the crude oil blockade in the State of Assam;

(b) if so, which were the refineries affected by the blockade and what was the loss suffered as a result thereof;

(c) what action Government have taken to restore the crude supply regularly to the refineries; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to prevent any such blockade in future?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) to (d) Guwahati and Bongaigaon refineries in Assam and Barauni refinery in Bihar suffered crude losses due to crude oil blockade and bandhs in Assam. As a result the total crude processing loss suffered by these refineries is around 0.64 million tonnes upto November, 1990.

The Central Government is continuously making all out efforts to normalise the situation.